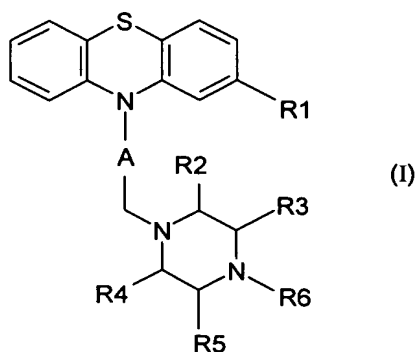


IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. Cancelled.
2. Cancelled.
3. Cancelled.
4. Cancelled.
5. Cancelled.
6. Cancelled.
7. Cancelled.
8. Cancelled.
9. Cancelled.
10. Cancelled.
11. Cancelled.
12. Cancelled.
13. (New) A method for the treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment a compound of general formula (I):



wherein

A represents a straight or branched alkylene chain of from 2 to 6 carbon atoms separating the nitrogen atoms linked thereto by at least two carbon atoms;

R1 represents hydrogen, halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkanoyl, lower alkyl-mercapto, trifluoromethylmercapto, lower alkyl-sulfonyl (preferably methylsulfonyl), perfluoroalkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

R2, R3, R4 and R5 each represent methyl, ethyl or hydrogen,

R6 represents hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkyl substituted by halogen, hydroxy-lower-alkyl or aliphatic acyloxy-lower-alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the acyloxy portion and 1 to 6 carbon atoms in the alkyl portion, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-OR<sub>7</sub> where R<sub>7</sub> represents hydrogen, COR<sub>8</sub> where R<sub>8</sub> is a branched or straight chain alkyl radical of from seven to fourteen carbon atoms.

14. (New) A method according to claim 13 wherein

A represents ethylene, propylene or 2- methylpropylene;

R1 represents hydrogen, chloro, COCH<sub>3</sub>, -CF<sub>3</sub>;

R2, R3, R4 and R5 each represent hydrogen;

R6 represents CH<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-O-R<sub>7</sub> where R<sub>7</sub> represents hydrogen, COR<sub>8</sub> where R<sub>8</sub> is a straight chain alkyl radical of from seven to fourteen carbon atoms.

15. (New) A method according to claim 13 wherein the compound of general formula (I) is flufenazine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof.

16. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the medicament is for oral, rectal, subcutaneous, intramuscular or intravascular administration route.

17. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the medicament comprises as active ingredient from 0.2mg to 500mg of the compound of general formula (I).

18. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the medicament is administered at doses comprised between 0.1mg/kg to 10mg/kg.